

***NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
PRODUCT/SERVICE DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)
TYPE: Official Product
DATE: Feb. 03, 2003***

**THREE-MONTH OUTLOOKS DISCUSSION
(CONTIGUOUS U.S. AND ALASKA)**

Part 1 - Mission Connection

1. Product/Service Description:

The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) provides a technical discussion of the meteorological and climatological basis for the outlooks.

2. Purpose/Intended Use:

This discussion provides technical insight to further assist decision makers.

3. Audience:

The audience is primarily decision makers with some technical background in weather and climate sensitive activities sensitive to inter-seasonal and inter-annual climate variation (e.g. weather risk management, energy/utilities, agriculture, hydrology, etc.).

4. Presentation Format:

The discussion is presented in text sent over NWS dissemination systems and on the CPC web site.

5. Feedback Method:

E-mail both Robert.Leffler@noaa.gov and Barbara.Mayes@noaa.gov

Part 2 - Technical

1. Format and Science Basis:

CPC will give the meteorological and climatological basis for the outlooks. CPC may include analyses of statistical and numerical models, a coupled atmospheric/ocean numerical model, meteorological and sea-surface temperature patterns, trends and past analogs, and confidence factors.

The following is generic format. The latest discussion is at:

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/90day/fxus07.html>

PROGNOSTIC DISCUSSION FOR 3-MONTH LONG-LEAD OUTLOOKS
NWS CLIMATE PREDICTION CENTER CAMP SPRINGS MD
300 PME-T THU mo.##20-

- SUMMARY OF THE OUTLOOK FOR NON-TECHNICAL USERS
(text)

- BASIC AND SUMMARY OF THE CURRENT LONG-LEAD OUTLOOK
(text)
- CURRENT ATMOSPHERIC AND OCEANIC CONDITIONS
(text)
- PROGNOSTIC DISCUSSION OF SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURE FORECASTS
(text)
- PROGNOSTIC TOOLS USED FOR U.S TEMPERATURE AND PREDICTION
(text)
- OUTLOOK
(text)
- PROGNOSTIC DISCUSSION OF OUTLOOKS- ...TO ...
- TEMPERATURE:
(text)
- PREDICTION:
(text)

FORCASTER: (name) - optional

FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THE STANDARD FORECAST TOOLS - THEIR SKILL - AND THE FORCAST FORMAT PLEASE SEE OUR WEB PAGE AT:
(url)

INFORMATION ON THE FORMULATION AND SKILL OF THE OUTLOOKS FROM CONSTRUCTED ANALOG FOR SOIL MOISTURE MAY BE FOUND AT: (url)

NOTE - THIS CLIMATE OUTLOOK IS INTENDED FOR USE ONLY PRIOR TO THE START OF THE VALID PERIOD. WITHIN THE VALID PERIOD ... OBSERVATIONS AND SHORT AND MEDIUM RANGE FORCASTS SHOULD BE CONSULTED.

THIS SET OF OUTLOOKS WILL BE SUPERSEDED BY THE ISSUANCE OF THE NEW SET NEXT MONTH ON THURSDAY mo.##20-.
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2. **Availability:**

These are scheduled products. CPC issues the discussion once a month on the third Thursday of the month around 3:00 p.m. Eastern local time. CPC does not issue updates or amendments. They will issue corrections as needed. CPC issues the discussion on NWS dissemination systems under the following product IDs:

WMO heading - FXUS05 KWBC

AWIPS ID - PMD90D

The discussion is also issued on the CPC web site at the URL listed in section 1.

3. **Additional Information:**

- Valid Time: The discussion is valid 0.5 months to 15.5 months after issuance.
- Product Expiration Time: The discussion expires with the issuance of the next discussion one month later (i.e. the third Thursday of the following month).
- Creation Software: CPC uses a text editor.